

Technology is integrating and whether or not SIRIUS and XM merge will not deter that integration. Phones now play MP3s, internet radio stations are available remotely utilizing WIFI systems. "Satellite" radio is available over the internet. "Terrestrial" radio is available over the internet. Given the current limited scope of satellite radio I believe that internet radio can now be included under the guise of satellite radio because there are internet providers such as Hughes Satellite Internet and WildBlue that are hosts to streaming internet radio, that radio gets broadcast the world over increasing completion. Link that technology with a cell phone such as Verizon or the new IPOD and you can get streaming satellite internet radio through available technology for the cost of cell phone service. That is a direct competitor of "Satellite" radio without even considering that when I am listening to "Satellite" radio I cannot listen to "Terrestrial" radio, HD radio, internet radio, my MP3 player, or my CD player. Not only can I only chose one of those sources to listen to but many of those competing technologies are getting integrated into the listening devices I use on a daily basis.

I think that Sirius and XM merging is a good thing for the audio listening segment and will actually improve competition not harm it. If the industry was the same as it was 10 years ago I would say it would be a bad idea, but the technology and therefore the competition has changed.